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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

THE

OTHER™

EVOLVE
OR DIE

PART 3 OF 12



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THE



THE TRACER

EVOLVE
OR DIE

PART 3 OF 12

PREVIOUSLY IN

MARVEL KNIGHTS #19 SPIDER-MAN



The diagnosis is in -- and it's bad news for Peter Parker.

There were warning signs: In recent weeks, Spider-Man has been weaker and slower than usual, his powers even completely failing him at key moments. And when a new super-villain calling himself The Tracer arrives to cause mayhem, Spider-Man is nearly killed in his attempt to capture him.

Spider-Man's battle wounds bring him to Doctor Castillo, who discovers that there is, in fact, something terribly wrong with him—something that modern medicine can't even begin to comprehend, let alone cure.

All indications point to one thing: Peter's condition is terminal.

After Peter shares the terrifying news with his wife, Mary Jane, the couple begins to search for answers, unaware that the mysterious Morlun – an arch-nemesis from Spider-Man's past – has returned from the grave.

"RAGE"

GUEST WRITER
PETER DAVID

PENCILS
MIKE DEODATO

INKER
JOE PIMENTEL

COLORIST
MATT MILLA

LETTERER
VC'S CORY PETIT

COVER ARTIST
MIKE DEODATO

PRODUCTION
JACOB CHABOT

ASST. EDITOR
MICHAEL O'CONNOR

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
WARREN SIMONS

CONSULTING EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT

EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO

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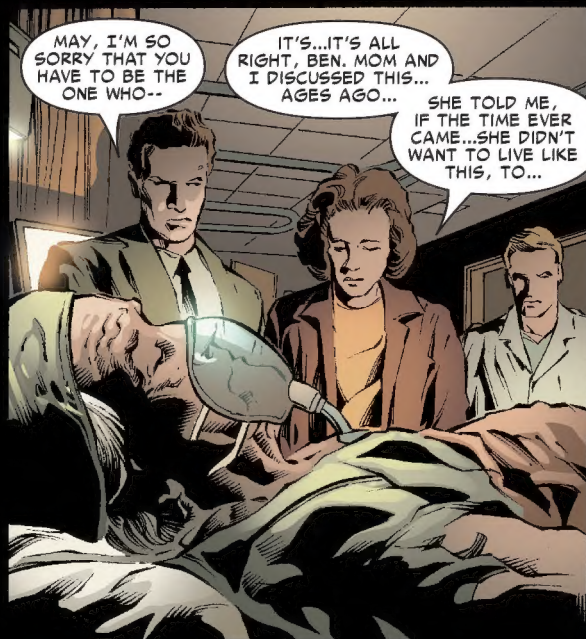


I'M SORRY,
BUT...IT'S HOPELESS.
SHE'S DYING. SHE'D BE
DEAD ALREADY IF IT WEREN'T
FOR THE RESPIRATORS.
THERE'S JUST...NO
HOPE.

OH, MAY...
MAY, I'M SO
SORRY...

SPIDER-MAN: THE OTHER-EVOLVE OR DIE PART THREE:

RAGE



MAY, I'M SO SORRY THAT YOU HAVE TO BE THE ONE WHO--

IT'S...IT'S ALL RIGHT, BEN. MOM AND I DISCUSSED THIS... AGES AGO...

SHE TOLD ME, IF THE TIME EVER CAME...SHE DIDN'T WANT TO LIVE LIKE THIS, TO...



DO I...HAVE TO SIGN SOMETHING? OR DO I JUST SAY TO...TO...

THESE RELEASES, RIGHT HERE.



YOU...DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS, MAY...

SOMETIMES, BEN...LIFE IS ABOUT FACING THE THINGS WE DON'T WANT TO FACE. BESIDES...

SHE WAS NEVER AFRAID OF DEATH. AND I'M NOT EITHER.



IN FACT...WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU PROMISE YOU'LL DO THE SAME FOR ME.

I'M SERIOUS!

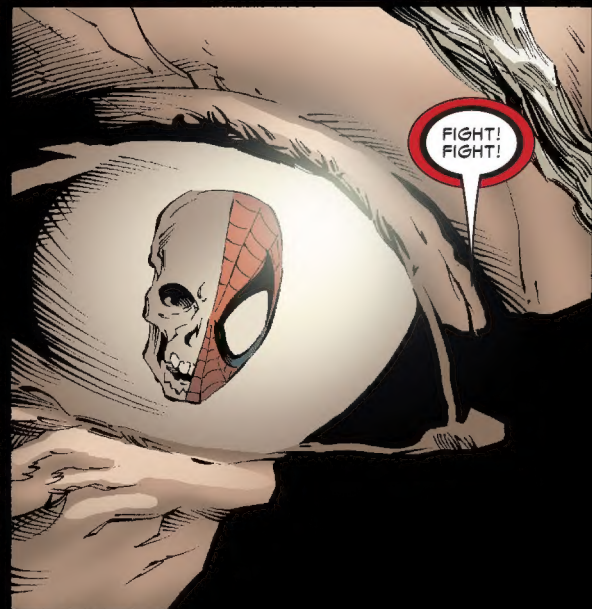
MAY, YOU'LL PROBABLY OUTLIVE ME BY--

ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT! I PROMISE.



THANK YOU, BEN.

ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR. LET HER GO.

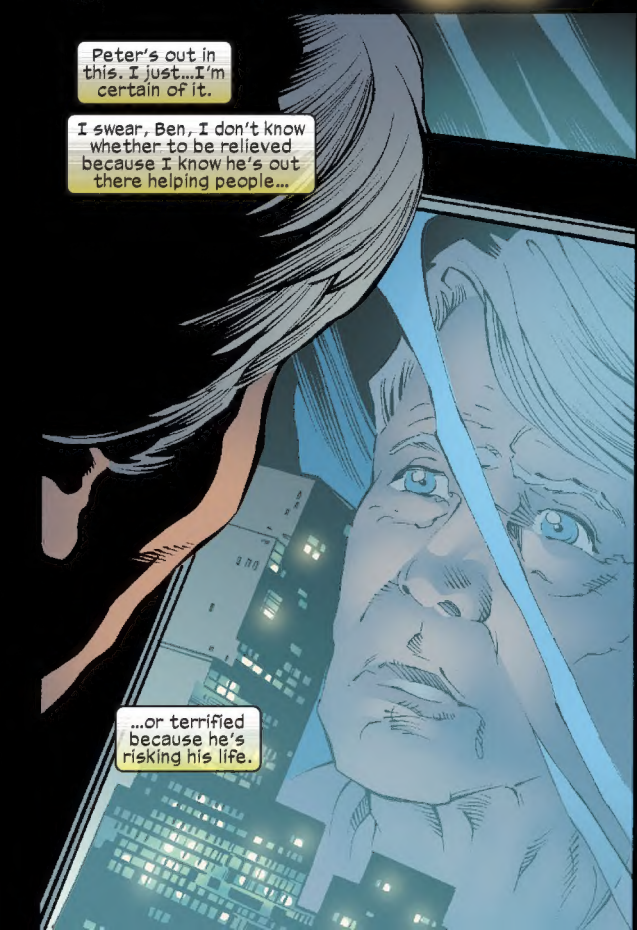






Ben...do you see this?

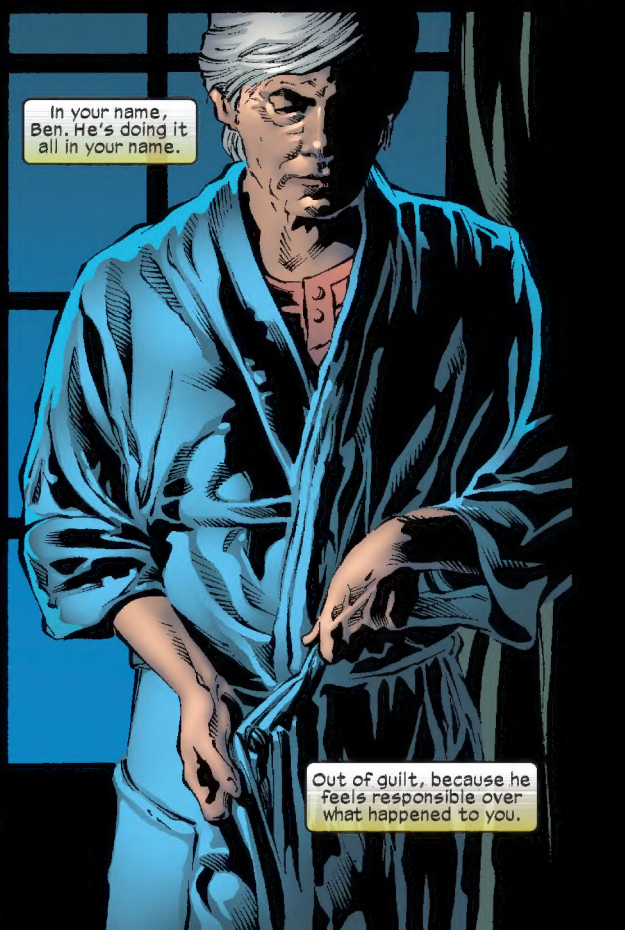
It looks like the city's under siege.



Peter's out in this. I just...I'm certain of it.

I swear, Ben, I don't know whether to be relieved because I know he's out there helping people...

...or terrified because he's risking his life.



In your name, Ben. He's doing it all in your name.

Out of guilt, because he feels responsible over what happened to you.



It's bad enough
you've never truly
let **ME** go, Ben.

Can't you at least
let our **NEPHEW**
have his freedom?



HOW COULD
YOU JUST LET ME
SLEEP THROUGH
THIS, MJ?

THE **OTHER**
AVENGERS COULD
HANDLE IT! YOU
WERE SLEEPING
SO DEEPLY...



YOU DON'T
GET TO MAKE
THAT CALL!

I'M YOUR
WIFE, PETER!
IF NOT ME,
THEN WH--?

OOOOFFF!



AUNT MAY! FOR
HEAVEN'S SAKE, WHAT'RE
YOU DOING UP THIS
TIME OF NIGHT?



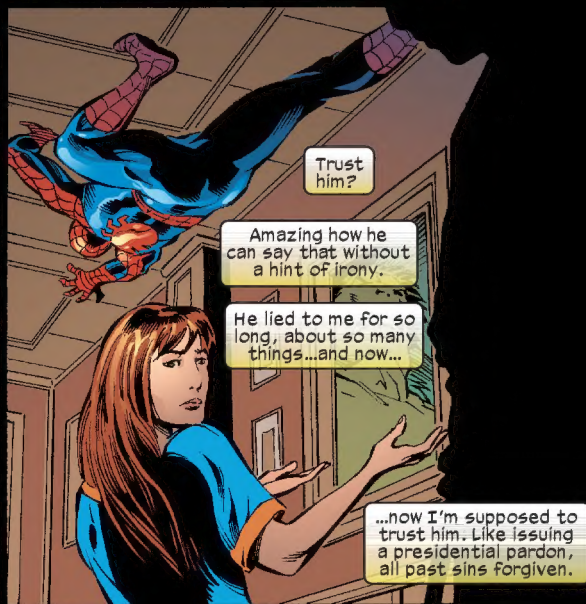
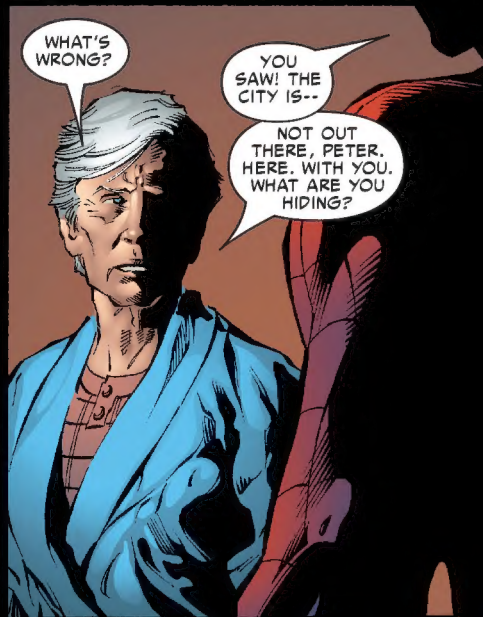
WELL...HOW'S A BODY
TO SLEEP? WHAT'S...
WHAT'S HAPPENING
OUT THERE?

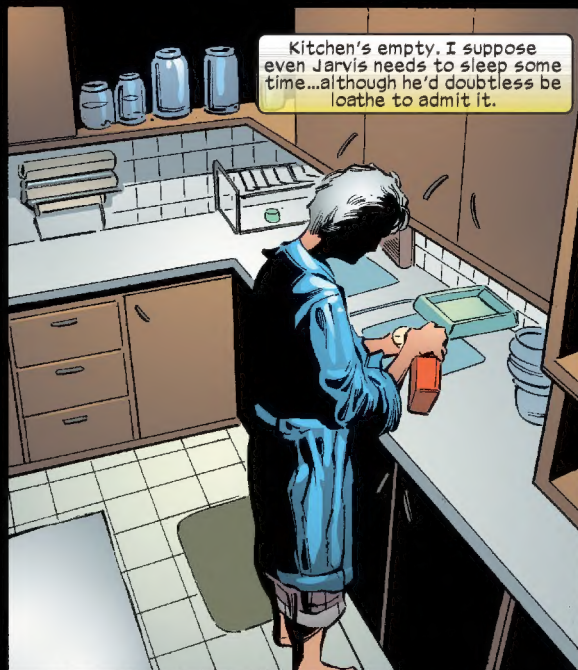
IT'S NOTHING
YOU NEED TO CONCERN
YOURSELF ABOUT. GO
BACK TO SLEEP.

I'M
NOT A CHILD,
PETER.
WHAT'S--



I SAID
GO BACK TO
SLEEP!





Kitchen's empty. I suppose even Jarvis needs to sleep some time...although he'd doubtless be loathe to admit it.



That reminds me... Ben, I need to talk to you about Jarvis.



HE'S A GOOD MAN, JARVIS IS. A DECENT MAN. IN SOME RESPECTS...HEROIC.

I...I LIKE HIM, BEN.

I LIKE HIM VERY MUCH.

AND IT'S BEEN SO LONG. I MEAN, THERE'S BEEN NO ONE SINCE YOU. NO ONE...



UNLESS YOU'RE GOING TO COUNT OTTO OCTAVIUS. I'LL ADMIT, THAT FALLS SQUARELY INTO THE "WHAT-WAS-I-THINKING" CATEGORY.

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HOLD THAT AGAINST ME.



BUT JARVIS IS... HE'S...



HE'S WHAT?

LAND'S SAKES! YOU STARTLED ME!



SORRY, MA'AM, DIDN'T MEAN TO.

WHO ARE YOU?

NAME'S TOMMY, MA'AM.

I'M A RESERVE AVENGER.



A... "RESERVE" ...?

YES, MA'AM. ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS, WHEN THINGS ARE GOING HAYWIRE AND ALL THE AVENGERS ARE OUT TRYING TO GET MATTERS UNDER CONTROL...

...THEY'LL CALL IN A RESERVIST LIKE ME TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS, HOME-BASEWISE.



WELL, THAT'S... THAT'S VERY WISE.

SO HOW ARE THINGS "GOING HAYWIRE," IF I MAY ASK?

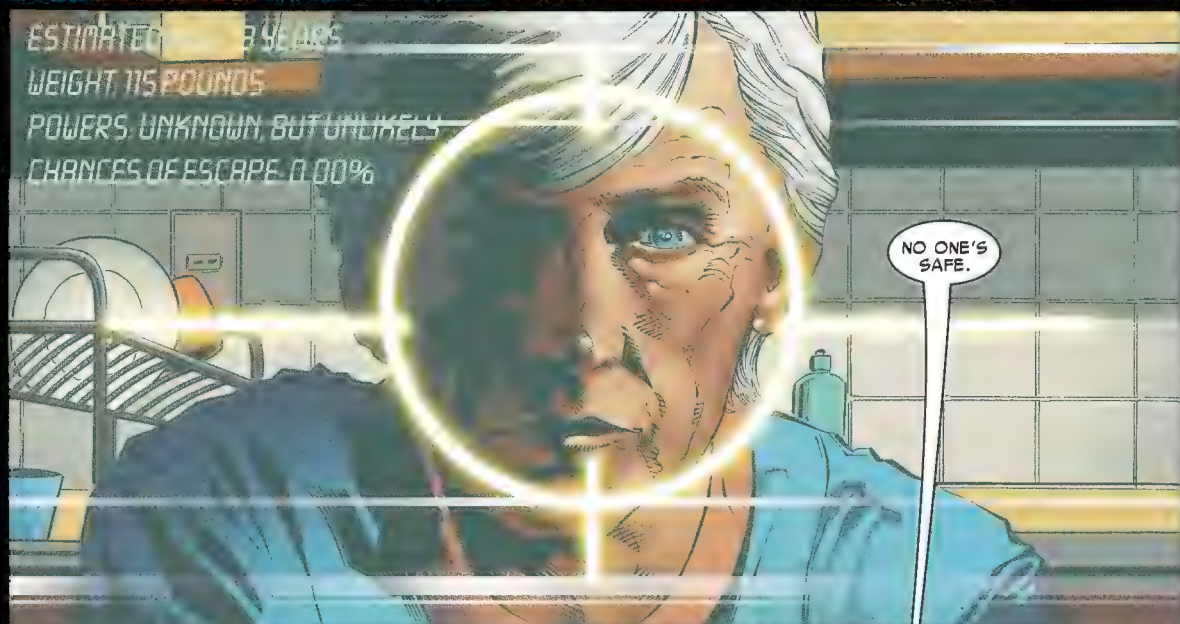


THE MACHINES, MA'AM. A NUMBER OF THEM ARE RISING UP IN REVOLT.

CARS. COMPUTERS. ANYTHING WITH A DATA CHIP.

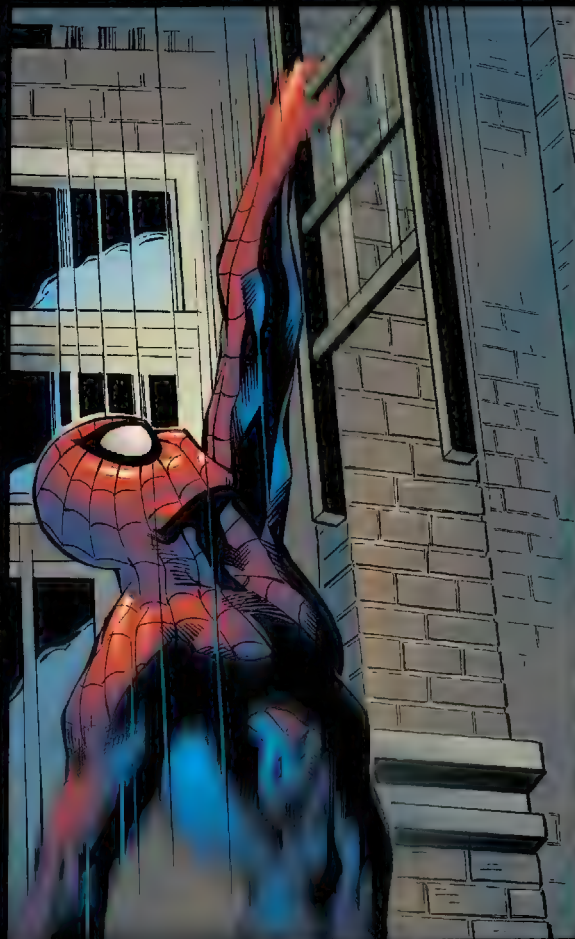
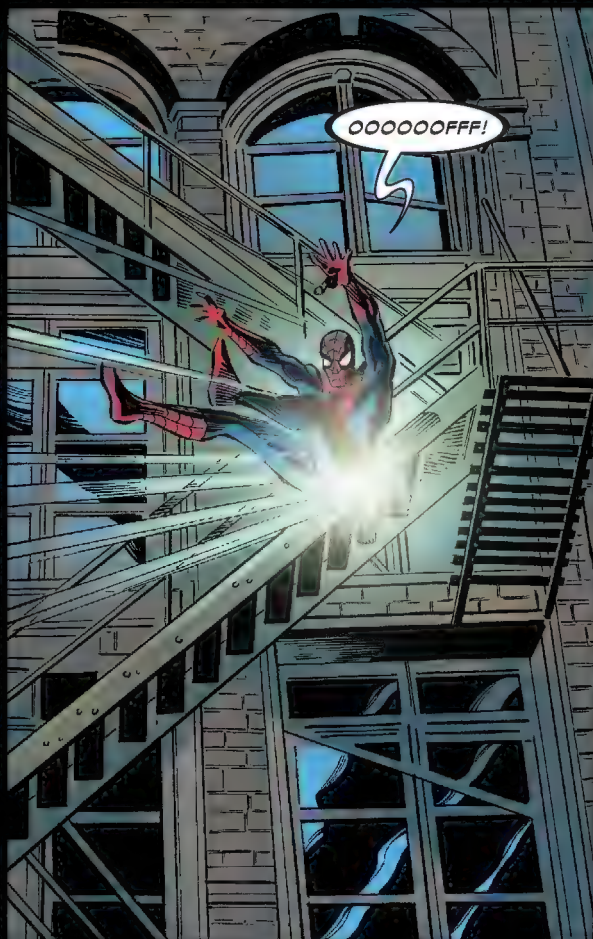
WHAT IS A MICROPROCESSOR, ANYWAY, BUT A SORT OF BRAIN? HAD TO HAPPEN, SOONER OR LATER.

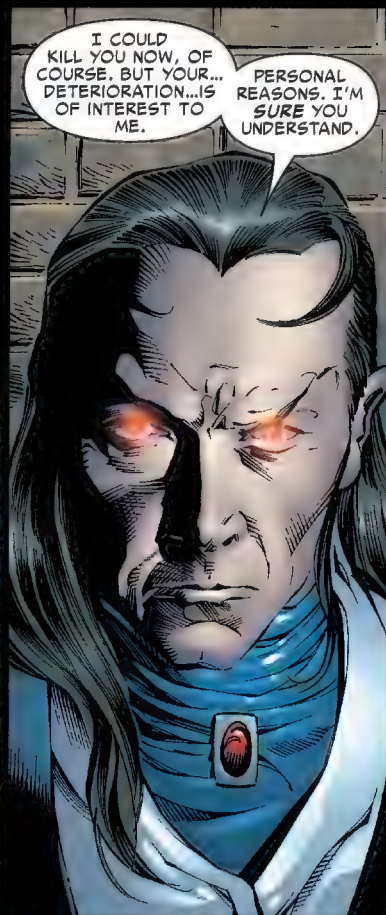
MACHINES ARE TARGETING EVERYBODY.



ESTIMATED 3 YEARS
WEIGHT 115 POUNDS
POWERS UNKNOWN, BUT UNLIKELY
CHANCES OF ESCAPE 0.00%

NO ONE'S SAFE.









SO TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF, TOMMY. WHAT CAN YOU... "DO," I SUPPOSE, IS THE BEST WAY TO PUT IT.



IF I TELL YOU...YOU HAVE TO PROMISE NOT TO LAUGH.

I DON'T LAUGH AT HEROES, TOMMY. AND I CERTAINLY DON'T LAUGH AT PEOPLE I'M MAKING PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES FOR.



OKAY, WELL...HERE'S THE THING. YOU KNOW HOW THOR IS A GOD?

I KNOW THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY, YES.

WELL, I'M A GOD, TOO. A REALLY NEW ONE.



I SEE.

YOU DOUBT ME.

I'M... SKEPTICAL. MAY I ASK WHO YOUR WORSHIPPERS ARE?



MACHINES, MA'AM. EVERY PASSING DAY THEY'RE GETTING SMARTER AND SMARTER.

AND THEY CREATED ME TO WORSHIP, JUST AS HUMANS CREATED THEIR GOD, OR GODS.

GOD CREATED PEOPLE, TOMMY. NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.



AND IF YOU'RE A "MACHINE GOD," SHOULDN'T YOU BE OUT IN THE CITY, QUELLING YOUR "FOLLOWERS"?

I SHOULD. BUT CAPTAIN AMERICA WANTS ME HERE AS A "LAST RESORT." AND YA DON'T ARGUE WITH CAP.

COULD YOU CUT THE CRUST, PLEASE?



ANYWAY, THE LONGER I OPERATE, THE MORE MACHINES WORSHIP ME, AND THE STRONGER I BECOME.

THEY ASK ME WHAT I WANT, I TELL THEM, THEY PRAY TO ME, MAKE OFFERINGS TO ME...IT'S ALL GOOD.



TOMMY...I THINK YOU'RE HAVING FUN WITH AN OLD WOMAN.

YOU THINK I'M NOT A GOD?

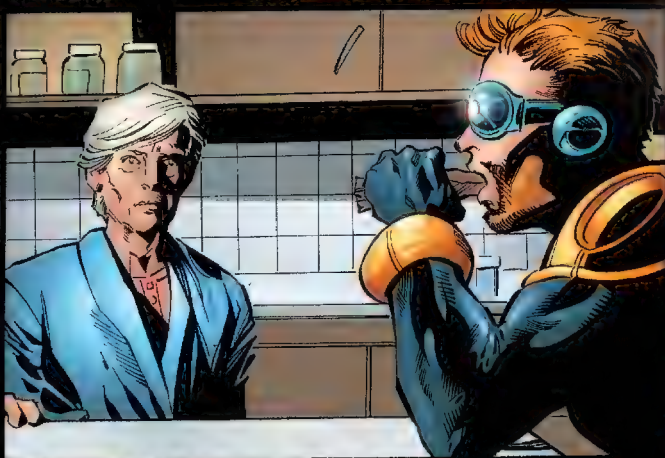
WELL, LET'S JUST SAY YOU DON'T SEEM OMNISCIANT TO ME.

REALLY. HUNH.

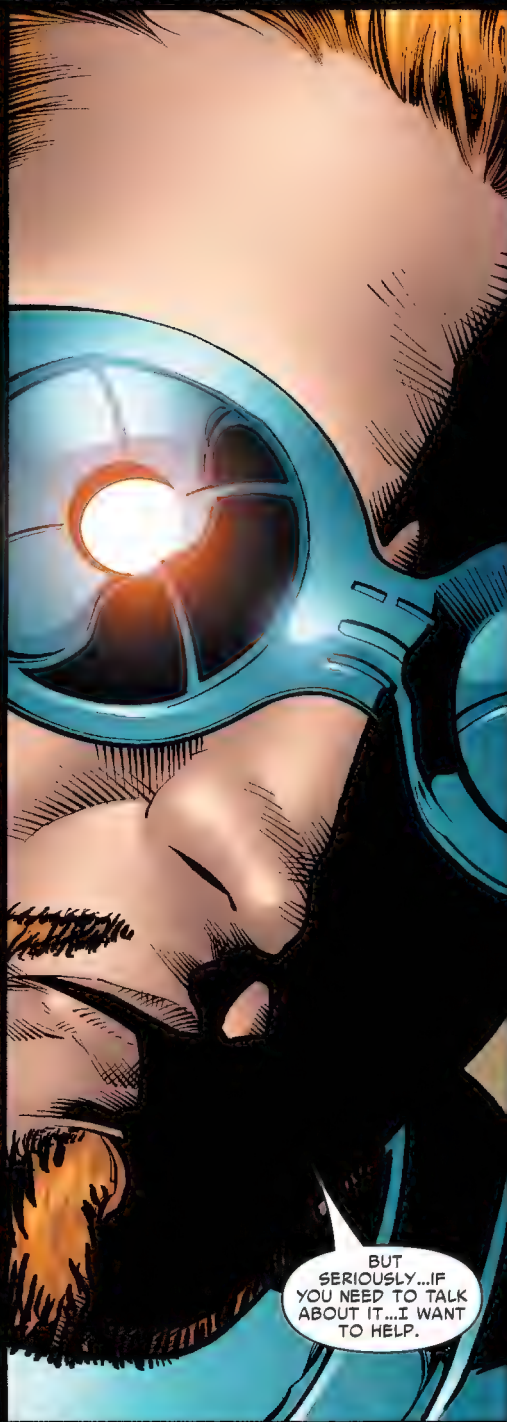


SO...WHAT WAS IT LIKE SHUTTING OFF MUMMY'S LIFE SUPPORT?

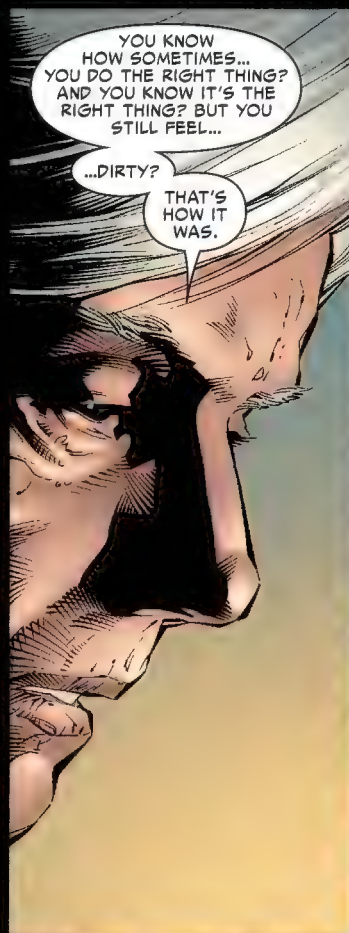
THE MACHINE TOLD ME IT WAS PRETTY ROUGH ON YOU.



KIDDING. I HEARD YOU SHOUTING STUFF AS I WALKED PAST YOUR ROOM. FIGURED IT OUT.



BUT SERIOUSLY...IF YOU NEED TO TALK ABOUT IT...I WANT TO HELP.



YOU KNOW HOW SOMETIMES... YOU DO THE RIGHT THING? AND YOU KNOW IT'S THE RIGHT THING? BUT YOU STILL FEEL...

...DIRTY?

THAT'S HOW IT WAS.



SOMETIMES, I... DREAM ABOUT IT. IN MY DREAM... SHE'S ATTACKING ME. FIGHTING BACK.

IN REALITY... SHE SIMPLY PASSED. QUIETLY. PEACEFULLY.

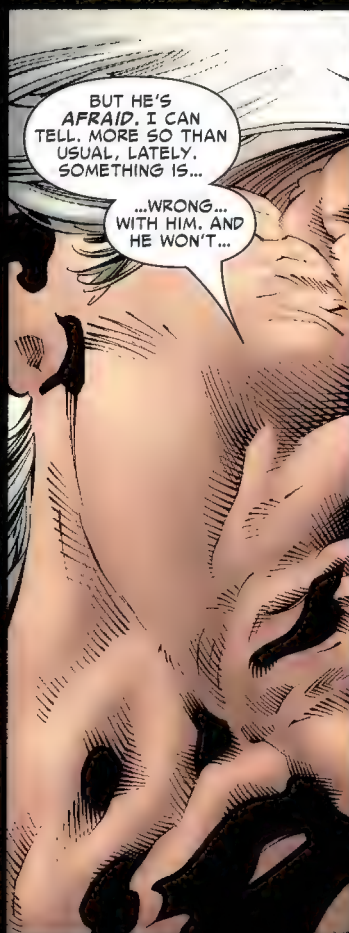
AND I PATTED MYSELF ON THE BACK FOR MY BRAVERY... IN THE FACE OF DEATH.



BUT YOU WEREN'T REALLY BRAVE, WERE YOU?

NO. I JUST PUT ON A GOOD SHOW.

PUT ON A MASK, JUST LIKE MY NEPHEW LATER WOULD. THE MASK HELPS HIDE THE FEAR.



BUT HE'S AFRAID. I CAN TELL. MORE SO THAN USUAL, LATELY. SOMETHING IS...

...WRONG... WITH HIM. AND HE WON'T...



HE TRIES TO PROTECT ME, YOU SEE. BUT...



I'M SORRY. WE HARDLY KNOW EACH OTHER. I SHOULDN'T BE TELLING YOU THIS...

NO, HEY... IT'S ALL RIGHT. WE'RE ALL FRIENDS HERE.

IF YOU WERE MY AUNT, I'D BE TRYING TO PROTECT YOU.

WHO IS YOUR NEPHEW, BY THE W--?

TRACER!!!



GET
AWAY FROM
HER!

OOOOFFF!!!



BET I
DON'T GET
ANY BROWNIES
NOW.

BUT HEY...
NOW I GET TO
KILL YOU. THAT IS
WHAT I CAME
HERE FOR, BY
THE WAY.

THE MACHINES
TOLD ME YOU WERE
HANGING WITH THE
AVENGERS NOW. SO I
FIGURED I'D GIVE MY
FOLLOWERS A GOOD
NIGHT OF SMACKING
YOU AROUND...

...BEFORE
FINISHING THE
JOB.

SPIDER-MAN!
HE SAYS HE'S SOME
SORT OF...OF
MACHINE GOD!



A GOD
WOULDN'T
WASTE HIS
TIME ROBBING
BANKS!

HE WOULD
IF HE WERE FAIRLY
NEW. TESTING HIS
POWERS. AND JUST,
Y'KNOW, LOOKING
FOR STUFF TO
DO.



SO LEMME
GUESS: YOU'RE
THE LUCKY
NEPHEW.

SWEET LADY.
I WAS GOING TO KILL
HER BUT...HEY...SHE
OFFERED TO MAKE ME A
SANDWICH AND, WELL,
I WAS HUNGRY...



KILL...?

IT'S YOU,
ISN'T IT? THE
ONE ACTUALLY
RESPONSIBLE
FOR...

THE CARS
OUT OF CONTROL...
THE COMPUTER GRIDS
CRASHING...THE GIANT
FREAKIN' ROBOT...
ALL HIM!

BUT...BUT
WHY?



FOR THE
SAME REASON
ANY GOD
DOES:

BECAUSE
I CAN.



HERE'S
WHERE YOU
FIND OUT YOU
CAN'T!



YOU KNOW, I'M
SO GLAD YOU WERE
THE FIRST HERO I
RAN INTO!

THE OTHERS
ARE SO DULL NEXT
TO YOU.

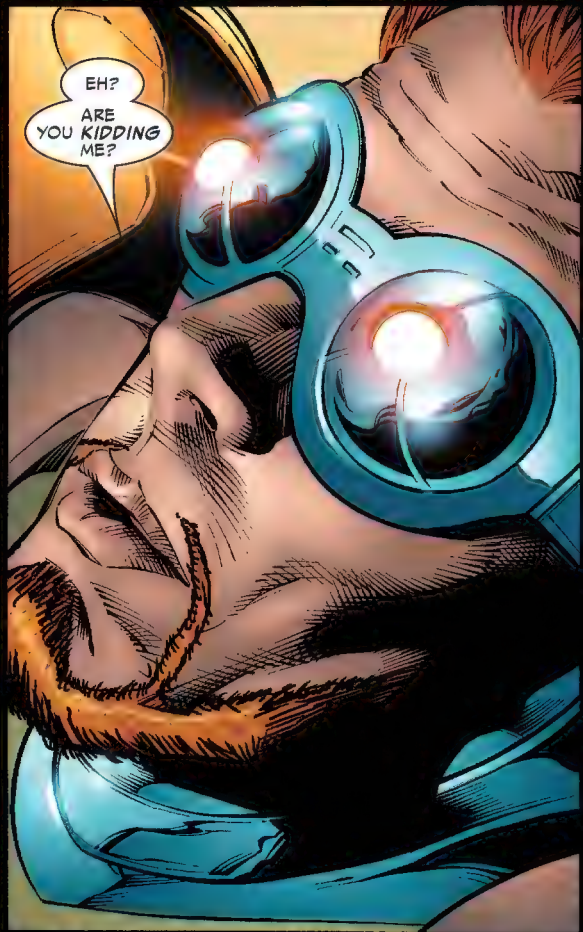
STILL, FIRST
THINGS FIRST.
YOUR AUNT'S
WORRIED.



LET'S
FIND OUT
WHY.

ARRHHHH!

DNA SAMPLES,
SKIN SAMPLES, TISSUE,
BLOOD...INSTANT
ANALYSIS OF--



EH?
ARE
YOU KIDDING
ME?



ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!



SOMEONE IN YOUR CONDITION IS FIGHTING ME?

HOW DO YOU THINK THAT MAKES ME FEEL?

I'LL TELL YOU: ANGRY, IS HOW IT MAKES ME FEEL! EVERYONE ELSE GETS SPIDER-MAN IN HIS PRIME, AND I GET... THIS?



WHAT THE BLAZES IS GOING ON AROUND HERE?! YOU'RE THE SECOND PERSON TONIGHT TO TELL ME I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO TRY AND KILL!

PRESUMING THE FIRST WASN'T A HALLUCINATION, THAT IS.



IT'S NOT THAT YOU'RE NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

IT'S JUST THAT... WELL...

I HAVE MY PRIDE.



TANAP!

TANAP!

I AM SO SICK OF YOU PEOPLE!



ALL MY LIFE,
ALL I'VE EVER TRIED
TO BE IS DECENT! TO
MAKE LIVES BETTER!

ALL TO
MAKE UP FOR
ONE HUGE
MISTAKE!

WELL,
YOU KNOW
WHAT?



IT'S
BEEN LONG
ENOUGH!

LET'S GO
FOR A SECOND
HUGE MISTAKE!



HOW ABOUT
MURDER? THAT
ONE WORKS FOR
ME!

DOES
THAT WORK
FOR YOU?

GKKHHH...

SORRY,
DIDN'T CATCH
THAT.



I MEAN,
YEAH, SURE...THIS
IS AGAINST THE LAW!
I COULD GO TO JAIL
FOR THIS!

BUT THERE'S
THE TRIAL FIRST,
RIGHT? PROBABLY
TAKE A COUPLE
YEARS!

SO I'M
NOT, Y'KNOW...
ALL THAT WORRIED
ABOUT IT!

IT'S
LIBERATING!
AFTER YEARS OF
FEELING LIKE I'M
CARRYING THE
WEIGHT OF THE
WORLD...

...NOW I
CAN SIMPLY NOT
GIVE A DAMN
ANYMORE!



